SERDANG: Three unions protested the proposal by the Higher Education Ministry to offer the registrar, treasurer and head librarian positions at institutions of higher learning to outsiders.

The Administration Officers and Ikhtisas Council (MASTI), Affiliation of Malaysian Universities Staff Union (GAKUM) and Congress of Unions of Employees in the Public and Civil Services (CUEPACS) had a meeting at Universiti Putra Malaysia yesterday to discuss the matter.

At a press conference after the meeting, CUEPACS President Datuk Omar Osman, who is also Gakum chairman, said the proposal was part of the amendments to the Universities and University Colleges Act 1974. Omar informed that the unions did not have a detailed discussion on the matter and they hoped to meet Higher Education Minister Datuk Seri Mohamed Khaled Nordin to resolve the issue.

"We hope it can be resolved before its brought to the cabinet. The proposal would only curtail opportunities for those who are more eligible within the institutions and we fear the universities would not achieve their objectives with outsiders holding the positions," he added.

He further remarked that they would send a memorandum to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak if the ministry persisted. - Bernama